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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/751,226	01/02/2004	Lee Chang Chuan	14152 B	1106

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EXAMINER

SCRUGGS, ROBERT J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3723

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

28

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/751,226	CHUAN, LEE CHANG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Robert Scruggs	3723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) none is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1, discloses that the first spring is "biased between the second end of the control rod and the shoulder of the working head", and second spring is "biased between the inserting end of the handle and the shoulder of the working head". However, there are two shoulders disclosed in Figure 2. It is recommended that the applicant specify which shoulder the first spring attaches to and which shoulder the second spring attaches to in order to correct this problem.

3. Claim 1, line 16 recites "the shoulder of the working head", on lines 3-7 the claim discloses the working head members, which fail to include "the shoulder" as one of the members. This variation constitutes an inferential limitation and insufficient antecedent basis. It is suggested applicant insert a description of "the shoulder" in the first paragraph as one of the head members to correct this problem.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected, as best understood, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu (6874392) in view of Ringer (5442980). Wu discloses a hand tool connector comprising a working head (Figure 2, 211) being a tubular member interiorly provided with a space being a step hole (Figure 2), a through tapering hole (216) at a first end (212) and a slot (213) at the second end thereof, a bigger end of the tapering hole being located in an internal surface of the space (Column 3, Lines 5-9), a control rod (22) inserted in the space of the working head where a first end extended out of the space and a second end confined in the space of the working head having a curved peripheral notch (221) corresponding to the tapering hole of the working head (Column 3, Lines 5-16), a positioning ball (25) confined in the tapering hole of the working head, and retained by the control rod, a first spring (23) biased between the second end of the control rod and the shoulder (215) of the working head, a handle (10) being a rod member having an inserting end (12) inserted in the working head, a hole (Figure 2) containing a spring (18) in the handle member which corresponds to the slot (213) in the internal surface of the space of the working head, a second spring (24) biased between the inserting end of the handle and the shoulder (214) of the working head. Wu lacks a pin pushed partially in the slot of the working head by virtue of the spring, whereby to confine the inserting end of the handle in the space of the working head. However, Ringer discloses a plunger assembly (60), which is step-shaped having a plunger (62) that extends beyond the surface of the square drive (40) in order to secure the square drive to the drive housing (112). It would have been obvious to one of

Art Unit: 3723

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the positioning ball (16) of Wu with a plunger being pushed partially in the slot of the working head by virtue of the spring, whereby to confine the inserting end of the handle in the space of the working head, in view of Ringer, in order to provide a securing means that utilizes a step shape plunger.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Stephens (4317392) discloses a ratchet wrench that utilizes an improved releasing mechanism. Thomas (5033337) and Finnefrock (4865485), disclose an extension element for use with wrench-type hand tools. Fox (5291809) discloses a locking adapter for a socket wrench.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Scruggs whose telephone number is 571-272-8682. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 571-272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3723

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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RS

